

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's final Office Action of February 3, 2010 issued with respect to the present RCE application, the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying Amendment of the claims and the below Remarks.

Regarding Amendment

In the Amendment:

independent claim 1 is amended to specify that the first secret key is allocated to the primary entity and not shared with the secondary entities. Support for this amendment can be found at paragraphs [5411]-[5426] of the present specification; and dependent claims 2, 3, 5-32 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the Amendment does not add any new matter to the present application, nor any new issues to the prosecution of the present specification.

Regarding 35 USC 103(a) Rejections and Response to Arguments

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended independent claim 1, and claims 2, 3 and 5-32 dependent therefrom, is not taught or suggested by Wertheimer, Schneier and Husemann either considered alone or in view of one another, because amended independent claim 1 explicitly recites that the first secret key allocated to the primary entity is not shared with the secondary entities, which distinguishes the claimed invention from Wertheimer, Schneier and Husemann for at least the reasons previously discussed by the Applicant.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

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